



A-13641

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<h2 style="margin: 0;">TRANSMITTAL FORM</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p>	Application Number	09/470,343	
	Filing Date	December 22, 1999	
	First Named Inventor	B. Martinez-Tovar	
	Group Art Unit	3641	
	Examiner Name	T. Chambers	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	P-1583

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">Return Receipt Postcard</div>
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Firm or Individual name	Frederick A. Spaeth
Signature	
Date	March 7, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: B. Martinez-Tovar et al : GROUP ART UNIT: 3641
SERIAL NO: 09/470,343 :
FILING DATE: December 22, 1999 : EXAMINER: T. Chambers
TITLE: TITANIUM SEMICONDUCTOR BRIDGE :
IGNITER : ATTY. DKT.: P-1583

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Box AF
Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 7, 2003

Dear Sir:

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This paper is responsive to the office action mailed October 8, 2002 in the captioned application. A petition for an extension of time for reply to March 8, 2003 was filed, and the extension therefor paid, on March 7, 2003 in connection with the filing of a Notice of Appeal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the captioned application.

Rejection of Claims 1-7, 9 and 11-24 Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-7, 9 and 11-24 (among which claims 1, 12, 18 and 21 are independent claims) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by PCT publication WO 9742462 of Martinez-Tovar (hereinafter referred to as "the Martinez-Tovar PCT application").

The Martinez-Tovar PCT application discloses a semiconductor bridge device comprising a bridge formation of semiconductor material on a substrate. The bridge is covered by a cap or cover layer 117 of metal having three strata, including a base stratum layer of titanium in contact with the semiconductor material, an intermediate stratum layer of titanium and tungsten, and a top stratum layer of tungsten (see the de-